

I. Amendments

A. In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

Please amend claims 42 and 43 as follows:

1. (cancelled).
2. (cancelled).
3. (cancelled).
4. (cancelled)
5. (cancelled).
6. (cancelled).
7. (cancelled).
8. (cancelled)

9. (cancelled).

10. (cancelled).

11. (cancelled).

12. (cancelled).

13. (cancelled).

14. (cancelled).

15. (cancelled).

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled).

18. (cancelled).

19. (cancelled)

20. (cancelled).

21. (cancelled).

22. (cancelled).

23. (cancelled).

24. (cancelled).

25. (cancelled)

26. (cancelled)

27. (cancelled)

28. (cancelled)

29. (cancelled)

30. (cancelled)

31. (previously presented) A pointing system, comprising:

- (a) a moveable puck configured to move laterally within a puck field of motion ("PFOM") in response to a user applying a lateral force thereto, the puck comprising a pressure sensing system configured to sense a first predetermined vertical pressure level applied by the user to the puck;
- (b) a position detector configured to measure puck position within the PFOM as the puck is moved laterally by the user therewithin, the position detector further being configured to report the puck position to a processor configured to actuate or cause to be actuated tracking or movement of a cursor on a display, the tracking or movement of the cursor corresponding to lateral movement of the puck by the user within the PFOM; and
- (c) a puck return mechanism attached to the puck and configured to return the puck to, or hold the puck in, a resting position within the PFOM when the user stops applying, or does not apply, vertical pressure to the puck;

wherein the system is configured actuate or cause to be actuated tracking or movement of the cursor on the display corresponding to lateral movement of the puck by the user within the PFOM when the user applies vertical pressure to the puck that is greater than or equal to the first predetermined vertical pressure level, and to cause the cursor to stop tracking or moving on the display when the user applies vertical pressure to the puck that is at least one of less than the first predetermined level and no vertical pressure.

32. (previously presented) The system of claim 31, wherein the pressure sensing system is further configured to sense a second predetermined vertical pressure level applied by the user to the puck, the second predetermined vertical pressure level being greater than the first predetermined pressure level.

33. (previously presented) The pointing system of claim 32, wherein the system is further configured to implement a "click" function when the user applies vertical pressure to the puck that is greater than or equal to the second predetermined pressure level.

34. (previously presented) The system of claim 33, wherein when the "click" function is implemented tactile feedback is provided to the user.

35. (previously presented) The system of claim 31, wherein the position detector comprises a capacitance measurement circuit.

36. (previously presented) The system of claim 31, wherein the position detector comprises an electrical current measurement circuit.

37. (previously presented) The system of claim 31, wherein the position detector comprises an optical imaging system.

38. (previously presented) The system of claim 31, wherein the pressure sensing system comprises a capacitance measurement system.

39. (previously presented) The system of claim 31, wherein the pressure sensing system comprises a compressible foam layer whose electrical resistivity varies according to the amount by which the foam is compressed by the user.

40. (previously presented) The system of claim 31, wherein the puck return mechanism comprises a plurality of magnets.

41. (previously presented) The system of claim 31, wherein the puck return mechanism comprises a plurality of springs.

42. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~39~~ 41, wherein the plurality of springs includes at least one of a meander spring, a helical spring and a spiral spring.

43. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~39~~ 41, wherein the plurality of springs comprises at least four springs.

44. (previously presented) The system of claim 39, wherein the puck return mechanism further comprises means for damping oscillations induced by the plurality of springs.